

TANF Guidelines

State Definition of 'TANF':

Programs intended to meet TANF purposes must be targeted at needy families and not the general public. Indiana's definition of a 'TANF Family'¹ is key to what programs can be funded by TANF and which programs will be included in meeting the state's TANF maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement. Indiana law defines a 'qualified family' as a family that consists of:

- a pregnant woman;
OR
- a family with a child who is residing with a parent or adult caretaker relative;
AND
- the pregnant woman or family's household income is less than 250% of the federal poverty level (FPL)

Purposes:

- Provide assistance to needy families so that children may be cared for as families seek financial independence
- End the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation and sustainable employment
- Encourage the formation and maintenance of families
- Prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies

Suggested Projects:

These grants will seed projects designed to:

- Transport individuals to and from their places of employment
- Create or maintain after-school child care and programming for employed individuals
- Provide employment and training services to the unemployed and underemployed

Prohibited services:

- Medical assistance of any kind, and
- Cash assistance of any kind (cash, payments, vouchers, or any other form of payment designed to meet a family's on-going basic needs - i.e. for food, clothing, shelter utilities, household goods, personal care needs and general incidental expenses.)

Reporting Requirements:

Grantees are required to determine that the household includes a child under age 18 and the families' income is less than 250% FPL. Per federal regulation, states are required to provide specific data on all individuals who received benefits and services paid with TANF funds. Grantees must report to OFBCI demographic info on program participants.

¹ Indiana Code 12-14-28-1 (<http://www.in.gov/legislative/ic/code/title12/ar14/ch28.pdf>)

Family Size	Maximum Annual Income*	Approximate Maximum Monthly Income
1	\$26,004	\$2,167
2	\$35,004	\$2,917
3	\$44,004	\$3,667
4	\$53,004	\$4,417
5	\$62,004	\$5,167

**2010 Federal Poverty Levels at 250%*

Income levels are effective 03-01-10 through 02-28-11